



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-8101

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October 6, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE CEQA FINDING AND AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION
OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT WITH A FLUOROSCOPY UNIT FOR
EL MONTE COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER
(1st District) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State Guidelines section 15301(a) and Class 1, Subsection (d) of the County of Los Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.
2. Authorize the lease-purchase acquisition through the Los Angeles County Capital Asset Leasing (LAC-CAL) program of x-ray equipment with a fluoroscopy unit at an estimated cost of \$379,000 for El Monte Comprehensive Health Center.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

In approving the recommended actions, the Board is authorizing the Department of Health Services (DHS or Department) to purchase a major item of fixed asset equipment, specifically, an x-ray machine with a fluoroscopy unit for El Monte Comprehensive Health Center (CHC).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The estimated acquisition cost is \$379,000. The equipment will be financed through the LAC-CAL program over a five-year repayment term. Funding for the equipment lease payments is included in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Final Budget, and will be requested in future fiscal years, as necessary. A one-year warranty for the equipment is included in the purchase.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

El Monte CHC has two x-ray rooms with equipment that is more than 25 years old, and equipment replacement parts are no longer available. On May 11, 2004, the Board approved replacement of one x-ray machine with a fluoroscopy unit for El Monte CHC at an estimated cost of \$348,000. Installation of the equipment had been delayed, but is now expected to be installed by November 1, 2005.

In January 2005, both x-ray machines became completely inoperable. El Monte CHC made temporary arrangements with Roybal CHC to address its needs until the previously approved x-ray machine was installed. Due to the delay in installation of the new equipment at El Monte CHC, a backlog of approximately 600 studies developed. To address the backlog, El Monte CHC prioritizes the x-ray requests, and the studies are performed two days a week at Roybal CHC. It is expected that the backlog will be eliminated once the previously approved equipment and this second unit are installed. Installation of the second unit is anticipated by April 2006. The facility will be able to keep the caseload current once both pieces of equipment become fully operational.

The x-ray equipment assists physicians in the diagnosis and development of appropriate treatment for patients.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by promoting best practices for patient care and the Goal of Fiscal Responsibility by investing in the public infrastructure.

Consistency with DHS System Redesign

This action meets the Department's strategic goal by improving the health care services provided by DHS and enhancing the health of the residents of Los Angeles County.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

The installation of this equipment is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State Guidelines section 15301(a) and Class 1, Subsection (d) of the County of Los Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987. Under this categorical exemption, minor alteration of existing structure including installation of equipment which may require interior and exterior alterations of a building involving such things as interior partitions, exterior parapets, placement of walls, veneer facings and installation of false or drop ceilings, plumbing and electrical conveyances and heating and refrigeration systems, etc., is exempt.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

The equipment request complies with the County Equipment Policy, approved on October 16, 2001, which requires Board approval prior to a department's purchasing/financing equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater, and falls under the statutory authority of the Internal Services Department's Purchasing Agent.

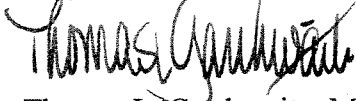
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 6, 2005
Page 3

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAM SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

The equipment will enable patients to have x-ray studies performed for El Monte CHC.

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors is requested to return three adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Health Services.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas L. Garthwaite".

Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

TLG:rf
Board letter el monte x ray 09.19.05

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Internal Services Department